

The Commoner.

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THE COMMONER, Lincoln, Neb.

Beggars are licensed in Spain. But this is no worse than licensing robbers, as we do in this country.

Those Colorado voters who voted for a change will hear very little of the "let well enough alone" cry this year.

A platform of platitudes will not deceive men who are in earnest in their desire to bring about needed reforms.

President Roosevelt is a little slow in handing his "big stick" advice to the warring republican factions in Wisconsin.

"Flag day" was observed by a great many people who deny that the flag means what they profess to believe it means.

The only explanation is that Pennsylvania has endured that sort of thing so long she has forgotten how better would feel.

We cheerfully admit that Mr. Knox in the senate will be just as dangerous to the trusts as Mr. Knox was in the cabinet.

The demand for a noiseless Fourth has very little effect on the small boy, and the small boy is in the majority on that day.

Every time the beef trust imagines a shortage in the supply of cattle it raises the price to the consumer and lowers it to the cattle raiser.

Of course Senator Knox will now proceed to draft legislation that will put out of business the eminent trust magnates who landed him in the senate.

If the new attorney general does less than the late attorney general, then the new attorney general will have to hire some one to help him do nothing.

Kentucky is to have a new capitol building, to be designed by an Ohio artist. Mr. Taylor of Indiana may now be expected to writhe a few more times.

If an election were not so close at hand perhaps we would be presented with some presidential jolly of General Bell's San Juaning feats in Colorado.

The president cannot understand why his personal interests should be endangered in Wisconsin by such a little matter as a quarrel about the state offices.

The owners of the Chicago street railways say the franchise question may be easily settled if business methods prevail. Got the right alderman located, maybe.

A Parker organ says the judge will speak with no uncertain sound as soon as he is chosen to lead the democratic hosts. This would indicate a very long spell of silence on the part of Judge Parker.

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Pennsylvania changes from a senator whose sins were those of commission to a senator whose sins are of omission. And the people get the worst of it either way.

Mr. Taylor will have to hustle hard for Governor Durbin in order to make up for what the governor had to listen to when the Kentucky democrats talked about him.

No platitudes, no evasions, no dodging, no playing for trust subscriptions—that should be the demand of every democrat who earnestly believes in democratic principles.

We opine that the liberty bell is glad to get away once in a while and breathe a little better political atmosphere than that which surrounds it in the city hall of Philadelphia.

Every time we hear what a good man Judge Parker is, we take a glance at Hill, Belmont, Meyer and other Parker boomers and recall to mind the sad story of Old Dog Tray.

General Bell's crown will slip to one side just as soon as the people of Colorado march to the polls and vote in their own interests without being influenced by appeals to their stomachs.

After several years of arduous labor at preventing trust prosecution, Mr. Knox has been accorded a vacation. He will now hold down a seat in the senate and block anti-trust legislation.

Congressman Burkett of Nebraska evidently believes in the double standard. He is running for two offices at once—congressman and senator—and the chances are 16 to 1 that he will not get either.

The new chairman of the g. o. p. national committee will find imposed upon him the task of keeping the dinner pail full of "hot air" and its owner satisfied with a diet of political atmosphere.

"During the eighty-eight years of my career," says Russell Sage, "I have never taken a vacation." This, doubtless, is due to the fact that Mr. Sage has been extremely busy taking everything else.

A South American visiting at the St. Louis exposition says he has seen forty revolutions in his country. That is almost as many as the g. o. p. has made on the financial, tariff and reciprocity issues.

Of course the republican administration of Colorado will send spell-binders down into General Bell's bailiwick and advise the outraged and deported miners to "stand pat" on the question of republican redemption.

Organized labor throughout the country is denouncing the dynamite horror at Victor, but up to date we have failed to see organized wealth's denunciation of the crimes perpetrated by the "citizens' alliance" of Colorado.

Speaking of refrigeration, there is nothing quite so cold as the atmosphere in Washington's official circles for the man who offers to present evidence sufficient to convict trust magnates of violation of the anti-trust law.

The Louisville Evening Post continues to carry the line, "A democratic newspaper," at the head of its editorial columns. Starting off its editorial department with this palpable falsehood, the Post remains consistent in its every editorial utterance.

The New York World sneeringly refers to "what is left of Nebraska democracy." But Nebraska democracy has assisted in wrenching its state from republican control several times since New York democracy accomplished the same purpose.

An employe of the government agricultural bureau while searching in South America found a little red ant that is death on the boll weevil. The gentleman should be kept at work searching until he finds something that will eradicate the graft weevil.

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Three years of Roosevelt has cost the country \$888,000,000 more than four years of Cleveland, notwithstanding the fact that four years of Cleveland cost the country about \$300,000,000 more than it would have cost had Cleveland not played into the hands of the gold gamblers.

Secretary Shaw says that figures will soon be issued to show that wages have increased in greater proportion than the price of the necessities of life. When the average housewife gets a hold of the report she will put some receipted grocery and dry goods bills by the side of it and make that report look like a session of the Annanias club.

Governor Peabody says that three-fourths of the miners were opposed to the strike. Then he goes right ahead deporting the men who opposed the act which Peabody claims should result in banishment. When men like Peabody start out on a line of reasoning they manage to tangle themselves in their logic before they get to the first corner.

The Russo-Japanese war is productive of a number of singular things. Japan has sent millions of gold to the United States for war supplies, and this gold, or a great deal of it, was sent to Paris to settle the Panama account. France is friendly to Russia in the present struggle, and Russia is negotiating a great war loan from the French. When the loan is negotiated it will be paid in gold, and much of it will be the gold sent to the United States by Japan. If, a little later, the Japanese capture this gold, either in battle or as a war indemnity, it will have made a complete circuit of the globe.

Scientists are considerably exercised these days over the alleged claim that the young women of today are growing taller and stronger than their mothers. It has been pointed out several times this spring that the young women graduating from colleges and universities are taller than their mothers, and it is asserted that this fact is due to the introduction of athletics into the modern college curriculum. Gymnasium work, golfing and the tennis court certainly have the effect of increasing the physique of those who indulge in them, and it would seem that this is the explanation of why the daughters of today are larger than their mothers.

The Commoner commends to the reorganizers and their organs the reply made by Dan V. Stevens of Nebraska to a query propounded by the New York World. Mr. Stevens was elected delegate to the St. Louis convention from the Third Nebraska district, and the day after his election the New York World telegraphed him: "To ascertain sentiment of uninstructed delegates, please wire your preference for the nomination for president at St. Louis." Mr. Stevens' loyalty to democracy is evidenced by the terse and ringing reply he sent. He said: "Candidates are nothing to me; principles are everything. I am unalterably opposed to any man who does not stand committed to the doctrines of democracy as laid down in the Kansas City platform." When democrats like Mr. Stevens are put on guard the enemies of democracy will find increasing difficulty in surprising the democratic hosts.

The report comes from London that the theatrical season has proved a poor one for the managers, and they are wondering why this is so. Similar reports come from the theatrical centers of the east. Perhaps the managers have not looked in the right place for the trouble. It is axiomatic that the moral people of every large community provide the bulk of the patronage for all lines of business. Here, then, may be found the secret of the poor theatrical business. The habitual theatre-goer has been surfeited with so-called "problem plays" that are too often but the vehicle for the conveyance of immoral dialogue and action, and it is not surprising that the great masses of the people have rebelled. Many of the leading plays offered to the public during recent years have contained incidents and suggestions that would be barred from almost every parlor, and certainly from the really Christian home. How, then, can theatrical managers hope to profit by continually giving to the people something that shocks their moral sense.

Gold On Its Travels.

The Athletic Girl.

No Guess About His Position.

The People Are Disgusted.